PATENT USSN: 10/560,296

Atty Dkt: 034176.004

AMENDMENT

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1. (Canceled)
- 2. (Currently amended) A method for the preparation of low molecular weight chitosan oligosaccharides, which comprised comprises:
 - 1) Weighting quantitative quantitatively weighing chitosan powder, powder,
- 2) Adding an electrolyte solution (chitosan: solution to the chitosan powder to obtain a a chitosan: electrolyte solvent (W/V) ratio =1:8~30)8~30 to the chitosan, then chitosan dissolved to viscous fluid.
- 3) Stirring viscous fluid to uniform the solution to uniformity, then after cap sealing to place in the microwave oven with microwave energy control to begin reaction.

 subjecting the solution to microwave irradiation,
- 4) The solution was adjusted adjusting the solution to neutrality with 1~10 M NaOH, KOH or ammonia water and obtained to obtain a pale yellow floc. Then the floc was settled beyond floc and then settling the floc at least 30 min minutes at 1~10 °C in a cold closet. closet,
- 5) The filtering the pale yellow floc in step 4) was filtered. The to obtain a precipitate was desiccated and then desiccating the precipitate at 50~70 \(\text{D}\). 50~70 \(\text{C}\) to obtain a dried product,
- 6) Dried product was crushed crushing the dried product to 20~100 mesh and assayed assaying the molecular weight of chitosan oligosaccharides (molecular oligosaccharides, and taking chitosan oligosaccharides having a molecular weight of 600~30000 Da) was taken Da as the finished product.
- 3. (Currently amended) The method according to the claim 2, characterized in that in step 2) wherein the electrolyte solution was that adding the electrolyte to comprises an electrolyte and an acid solution.

PATENT USSN: 10/560,296

Atty Dkt: 034176.004

4. (Currently amended) The method according to the claim 3, characterized in that wherein the electrolyte may be is NaCl, KCl, CaCl₂ or FeCl₃.

- 5. (Currently amended) The method according to the claim 3, characterized in that wherein the ionic strength of electrolyte acid solution is was 0.01~0.1.
- 6. (Currently amended) The method according to the claim 3, characterized in that Dilute wherein the acid may be is hydrochloric acid, acetic acid, citric acid, tartaric acid, formic-acid. Concentration acid, and wherein the concentration of tartaric acid and citric acid is was 0.5~4% (W/V), and the concentration and that of hydrochloric acid, acetic acid and formic acid is was 0.5~4% (V/V).
- 7. (Currently amended) The method according to the claim 3, characterized in that wherein the microwave energy is was 480~800 W.
- 8. (Currently amended) The method according to the claim 3, characterized in that wherein the microwave irradiation time is $\frac{1}{12}$ min minutes.
- 9. (Currently amended) The method according to the claim 2, 3, 7 or 8, characterized in that wherein the acid solvent-containing NaCl obtained range of molecular weight of the resultant to be chitosan oligosaccharides obtained from the electrolyte solution comprising NaCl ranges from $2.5 \times 10^4 \sim 9.14 \times 10^3$ Da.
- 10. (Currently amended) The method according to the claim 2, 3, 7 or 8, characterized in that wherein the acid solvent containing KCl obtained range of molecular weight of the resultant to be chitosan oligosaccharides obtained from the electrolyte solution comprising KCl ranges from $2.0 \times 10^4 \sim 6.02 \times 10^2$ Da.
- 11. (Currently amended) The method according to the claim 2, 3, 7 or 8, characterized in that

PATENT USSN: 10/560,296

Atty Dkt: 034176.004

wherein the acid solvent containing CaCl₂ obtained range of molecular weight of the resultant to be chitosan oligosaccharides obtained from the electrolyte solution comprising CaCl₂ ranges from $1.8\times10^4\sim4.79\times10^2$ Da.

12. (New) A method for the preparation of low molecular weight chitosan oligosaccharides, which comprises:

exposing an electrolyte solution containing chitosan to microwave irradiation.